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1878-79

ED

Folios - 5 of 1878

Slips - 1-4

1878

From C

To The Director of Public Instruction -

Section — Edu 5 of 78

Do'ed 9/12 Dec
Despat hed
Received 9/12/78

Enclosures No 3 Printed Copies of Govt Letter & encls

General No 7471
Edn No 30

Letter No. 5/288 dated 28. No. 2/78 from the Government of India, Home dept forwarding certain papers on the question the admission of the children of prostitutes into Government aided Schools

I forwards copy of the above and its enclosures (together with 2 spare copies) to the Director Public Instruction

2 The Director is requested to obtain an expression of opinion on the subject from any two selected native gentlemen and to submit his report thereon

By order

Secretary

Orgn 12/12/78

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1879

From Director of Public Instruction

To Secretary to Chief Commissioner, General Department

Section— Sch 1
5 of 78
No 2

Dated 31st January 79

Despatched 7th Feb

Received 3rd Feb

ENCLOSURES NO

General No 2876 } 1878—79
No

Enclosing his opinion on the Educational disabilities of the Muldrau of dancing girls.

Subject

Govt of India may be informed that C C after consulting with the D P I is of opinion that the present system in Mysore requires no alteration

Boys & girls the children of prostitutes are admitted to all Govt boys' schools but such girls are excluded from Girls schools & the Govt Farms

No 2826

Office of Director of Public Instruction
Bangalore, 29th January 187

From,
The Director of Public Instruction

To, The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Mysore

Sir, I have the honour, as requested in your docket No 7471 - Edl 20 of the 12th ultimo, to report on the question - referred for opinion in letter from the Government of India, Department, Education No 5/288 of the 28 November last - of the admission of the children of prostitutes into Government and Aided schools.

2 With regard to ... there appears to be no objection, ... the question there applies more particularly to ... is not an unusual thing ... or two in the ...

objection made to their attendance [illegible] on inquiring, as one naturally does on seeing one or two girls in a Boys' school who they are, the headmaster of the town and bystanders immediately state that they are of the prostitute class, if such be the case, without the slightest hesitation and with no more reserve than if they were of any other class

3 The fact is that the prostitutes as much a recognized calling and profession in Hindu society as that of the most useful tradesman It is necessary to divest one's mind therefore entirely of European ideas on the subject We have not to judge of fallen women, cut off from society by disgrace, and driven to prostitution as a means of livelihood Nor, in connection Hindu towns, is there approaching to the

5 to be seen in European cities the dancing and prostitute class here consists of girls brought up to that as their legitimate and hereditary calling and profession from the earliest age "They regard their profession as one of our native masters states "to be as justifiable and honorable as any other mode of industry" Moreover they are generally attached to some temple, where they take part in the service and have a recognized position In short they are married to the god the ceremony being performed, on their attaining the proper age, in as regular and sanctioned a manner as an ordinary marriage This will account to a great extent for the little pris of this class being regarded, not as the children of outcastes from society – the mere entry of one of whom

into most of our schools, would be a signal for the instant withdrawal of all the pupils — but as the children belonging to low among the other recognized classes of the community

4 I have spoken thus far of the girls attending boys' schools With regard to any attending girls' schools, it is very rare In one school where there were two or three, no objection was raised by any one of the parents of the remaining 50 or 60 girls and the master, a very respectable and highly esteemed man, stated that he had found their presence useful, when the school was new, in stimulating the other girls to learn, as the latter were at first afraid to go on with their lessons or [illegible] to shyness and the novelty of the whole thing But as a rule the masters of girls' schools are under orders not to admit such, and their attendance is quite exceptional The dancing girls of a certain town presented a petition to me some time ago for the

admission of their children to the girls' schools but it could not be allowed On another occasion a young woman of this class presented herself to me as a candidate for a teachership

5 In accordance with the directions in your docket, that I should obtain the opinion of two native gentlemen, I consulted Mr Krishnaiengar C S I, Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, and Mr Abdul Khan K B, Deputy Commissioner of Chitaldru

6 The former, while of opinion that there is no objection to the admission of the male children of the class in question into boys' schools, would not advocate the admission of the girls either into the boys' or girls' schools, as such a thing would not only be galling to the feelings of the Native society but also tend to [illegible] reformation of these women he adds" is the object of the present agi any success is in my opinion hope

as long as the dancing or prostitute class is allowed to exist, and the ancient Hindu customs and usages in connection with certain ceremonies prevail. But if the spread of knowledge among this class is aimed at, there appears to be no necessity for the Government to take any action in the matter, as the parents or guardians of these girls do as a rule make their own arrangements to give them education.

Mr Abdul Khadar consulted the principal Hindu officials under him before replying. He states that they do not oppose the admission of boys of the class under reference into the public schools, but strongly oppose the admission of the girls, and is of opinion, with regard to the latter, that a separate school should be opened especially for their education. Among the reports on the

subject made to him, one from Mr Manga
Rau Naidu, Munsiff of Davangere, states
that 'this question was very often a topic
discussion in the intelligent and thinker
part of the Bengalee and Madrasee
communities, and the majority was against
it, and I believe that in almost all the
girls' schools established by native gentle-
men such admission has been prohibited.
The Judicial Assistant Commissioner, Mr
Mudukrishna Naidu, says "if the Govern-
ment is so disposed as to instruct the
children of these infamous (? ill famed)
females in the female schools, and to
thereby correct their course of life, if
their mothers or supporters agree that
they will not train their children at
home for their profession, they may be kept
apart from other children in any fe-
school and separately instructed"

8 There is, it will thus be seen, a very general consensus of opinion that the children of prostitutes should not be admitted to girls' schools, and there are the standing orders of the Department With regard to their admission to Boys' schools the same objection is not expressed in the case of boys there would appear to be none, and but little in the case of girls, if any With regard to the latter in Boys' schools, I have proceeded on the principle of not raising an objection to the presence of any actually in attendance if none was made by the people, and I think it would be wise to continue the same course, rather than utterly proscribe a class of children who, from no fault of their own, are so much entitled to commiseration

With regard to the two suggestions above quoted, that the dancing of prostitute

class should not be allowed to exist, and that the mothers or supporters of those seeking admission to the schools should enter into an agreement not to train their children at home for their profession, for that both are alike entirely impracticable But, from a pamphlet by the editor of a Native newspaper sent to me from Bombay, on "the disabilities of the children of dancing girls", it appears that the male children who have entered our schools do sometimes work their way up, and by means of a good education thus received obtain public employment and rise to influential positions parts of the country where they are able to conceal their origin, and that many of those who have thus secured a respectable position exert themselves for the emancipation of their relatives from contempt

in a career of vice. At the same time it must be borne in mind that cases of child birth are rare among the prostitute classes and that though sometimes girls are vowed to the god by their parents at or even before birth, the ranks are mainly recruited by the purchase on the part of such as are getting old of promising female infants from poor villagers, and these girls are then brought up to continue the profession and be a means of support to their adoptive mother when laid aside. Here, perhaps, is the only opening for legislative interference, but there might be a risk on the other hand, of encouraging infanticide.

As regards Aided schools, I am asked that the question has lately

been brought before the Annual Conference of Missionaries, and the opinion was unanimous that such children should not be admitted, as their admission would injure the reputation of the schools and might also lead to other evils

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Director of Public Instruction

To be placed in File.

O. or M. 5-8

Section — Labor

File No — 5 — 0f 78 — 3

Serial No —

No. 2941 53

Date 7-2-79

From

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To Home

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19-10-81

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From The Director of Public Instruction Mysore & Coorg

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Departm

Dated 16 February 1879

Despatched 11

Received 12 Feb 12

ENCLOSURES NO

General No 2904 / No } 1878 —79

Subject Education

No 5 of 78

Serial No 4

Submitting in continuation of his office letter No 2826 of the 29th ultimo an opinion of the Wesleyan Mission regarding the admission of the children of dancing girls to

J Nash

No 2704

Office of the Director of Public Instruction
Bangalore, 10th February 187

From,
The Director of Public Instruction

To,
The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Mysore

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No 2826 of the 29th ultimo, para 10, I have the honour to state that the report there made as to Aided schools referred particularly to the London Mission. I have since received a reply from the Wesleyan Mission, of which the following is an extract —

"We have made it our unvarying rule not to receive dancing girls, as we believe their presence injurious both in lowering the moral tone of the schools and also in prejudicing respectable Hindus against them. At the same time we find it most difficult to exclude them as teachers and persons can get these girls more easily than others, and indeed are pressed by interested parties to

Later references

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos 1–2

May ~~Part B~~ for January 1 1920

SUBJECT

Appointment of a Committee for the Examination of the Senior Students of the School of Engineering and Natural Science

W D 88—GPB—50 000—24 7 16

Later references

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos 1–2

Major ~~Part B~~ for January 1 1820

SUBJECT

Appointment of a Committee for the Examination of the Senior Students of the School of Engineering and Natural Science

W D 88—GPB—50 000—24 7 16